Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended)

A method, comprising:

entering user information into a processor controlling a dispensing cabinet having a plurality of shelves;

choosing a locate mode;

creating a list containing at least one ~~identifying an~~ item to be located; and

said processor ~~responsively flashing a~~ controlling a numeric display on at least one of said plurality of shelves within the cabinet ~~that contains said item to be located~~, wherein said display ~~flashes the quantity of said item~~ indicates the number of different items on the list held by the corresponding shelf.

Claim 2 (currently amended)

The method of claim 1 additionally comprising ~~the step of~~ entering patient information.

Claim 3 (currently amended)

The method of claim 24 additionally comprising ~~the steps of~~ opening one of the unlocked doors, selecting a compartment, entering the number of items taken, and closing the opened door.

Claim 4 (currently amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein said ~~step of~~ choosing a locate mode includes choosing from among a dispense, locate, return ~~and~~ or restock mode.

Claim 5 (currently amended)

The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a list containing at least one~~step of identifying an~~ item to be located includes one of picking an item from a pick list, inputting identifying information with a keypad, ~~and~~ or barcode scanning.

Claim 6 (currently amended)

A method, comprising:

entering user information into a processor controlling a dispensing cabinet having a plurality of shelves;

said processor unlocking certain doors of the dispensing cabinet in response to said user information;

entering patient information into the processor;

choosing a locate mode;

creating a list containing at least one~~identifying an~~ item to be located;

said processor ~~responsively flashing a~~ controlling a numeric display on at least one of said plurality of shelves within the cabinet ~~that contains said item to be located~~, wherein said display flashes the number~~quantity~~ of different items on the list~~said item~~ held by the corresponding shelf;

opening an unlocked door behind which there is a shelf with a flashing display;

selecting a compartment in said shelf with said flashing display; and

zeroing the flashing display in response to the selection of said compartment.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

The method of claim 6 wherein said ~~step of~~ choosing a locate mode includes choosing from among a dispense, locate, return ~~and~~ or stock mode.

Claim 8 (currently amended)

The method of claim 6 wherein said creating a list containing at least one~~step of identifying an~~ item to be located includes one of picking an item from a pick list, inputting identifying information with a keypad, ~~and~~ or barcode scanning.

Claims 9 – 23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (previously presented)

The method of claim 1, further comprising said processor unlocking certain doors of the dispensing cabinet in response to said user information.

Claim 25 (previously presented)

The method of claim 24, further comprising:

logging off; and

locking the unlocked doors.

Claim 26 (previously presented)

The method of claim 6, further comprising:

identifying the number of items taken from the selected compartment;

displaying the number of items taken on the display;

closing the opened door;

logging off; and

locking the unlocked doors.

Claim 27 (currently amended)

An item dispenser comprising:

a cabinet comprising~~having~~:

a plurality of shelves, each of said shelves configured to hold a plurality of items, ~~wherein at least one of said plurality of shelves contains an item to be located,~~ and

a numeric display on each of said plurality of shelves ~~containing said item to be located~~; and

a processor in electrical communication with said cabinet and controlling an operation thereof, wherein said processor is configured to locate items ~~said item~~ in said cabinet and to control ~~responsively flash on~~ each said display such that the display indicates the corresponding ~~quantity of~~number of different items to be located that are ~~said item~~ held by the respective shelf.